



**CITY OF GREENSBORO
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***MAYOR KEITH HOLLIDAY PROVIDES STATEMENT
REGARDING COUNCIL POLYGRAPH TESTS***

Mayor Keith Holliday has issued the following statement to the press in lieu of interviews concerning this week's polygraphs. As everyone is now aware, the information which can be shared on this issue is strictly constrained by law and by the requirements of the ongoing investigation. For that reason, every effort has been made to ensure everything that can be said by Council is in this statement. Council members do not have additional information to add at this time and do not anticipate making further statements.

GREENSBORO, NC (May 5, 2006) – On behalf of the eight members of the Greensboro City Council who participated in the polygraph tests this week, I am reporting directly to the citizens of Greensboro that all eight (Holliday, Anderson-Groat, Johnson, Gatten, Wells, Phillips, Barber and Carmany) members passed this test. While taking a polygraph is not a pleasant experience, we as a body are satisfied with the results. I regret that Councilmember T. Dianne Bellamy Small elected not to participate, but it should be noted this is an internal Council governance issue completely apart from the excellent work on the police investigation being done by Acting Police Chief Tim Bellamy and staff. The polygraph tests were administered by a recognized and experienced polygraph specialist who was recommended to Council by Risk Management Associates. Questions were narrowly focused on the release of personnel information protected by State law. There will be no written report, and I have expectations of no further comment by Council on this issue.

Council/manager governance is based on trust and belief in the personal integrity of each member. As a result, in addition to submitting to polygraphs tests, the same eight Council members also signed affidavits of non-disclosure of the RMA Report providing more tangible evidence of the good will and common purpose that has existed and will continue to exist among Council.

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While some media outlets have chosen to focus on this polygraph story, Council members have continued to be hard at work on the real, substantive issues that face us. Since late March the City Council has been conducting a department-by-department (and line-by-line) review of the City Budget in preparation for receiving the City Manager's proposed budget on May 16.

Additionally, council members and Greensboro Transit Authority Board representatives have been working weekly on a joint task force to look for possible solutions to the overcrowding of our transit system, issues of future funding, and possible service expansion to 30-minute bus service on all 14 routes. (This GTA task force will report its recommendations on May 16). Concurrently the council has been researching and discussing projects to be included on the November 2006 Bond Referendum. The projects to be included will signal how our City might be developed and shaped over the next ten years. We as a Council have also been focused on economic development standards, transportation and water/sewer issues. In summary, the Greensboro City representatives are extremely busy doing the people's work while maintaining oversight regarding the various aspects of the ongoing Police investigation.

In my opinion, work on the budget, GTA, the bond package and other aforementioned issues are far more significant and worthy of media coverage than the counterproductive and negative focus of the past two weeks on polygraphs. Council joins me in looking forward to discussing with the citizens the real work we are doing for them in shaping our joint future.

The City of Greensboro works in partnership with the community to increase the quality of life for all residents by fostering an environment of inclusion, diversity, and trust. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a dedicated professional staff of 2,800 employees who maintain four core values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City is governed by a council-manager form of government with a mayor and eight council members. For more information on the City of Greensboro, please visit us online at www.greensboro-nc.gov or call 373-CITY (2489).

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